



A. Lawrence
#913
8.15.02

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05552.1442

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

In re Application of:

Ralf OTTO et al.

Application No.: 09/551,581 ✓

Filed: April 18, 2000 ✓

For: CLOSURE APPLIANCE FOR REAGENT CONTAINERS ✓

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) Group Art Unit: 1852 ✓
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) Examiner: Patricia K. Bex ✓
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated February 8, 2002, the period for reply having been extended for three (3) months by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 7-11 and add new claims 14 and 15 as follows:

7. (Amended) An appliance for opening and closing reagent container stoppers in partially or fully automatic analysis apparatus, comprising:

a plunger for engaging and releasing a catch on a reagent container stopper to be opened or closed, the plunger moveable between an at rest position and a working position;

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